

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 10111 231744Z

73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 DODE-00 EB-07 L-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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R 231601Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1874

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 10111

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN GR EG

SUBJECT: COMMISSARY SHIPMENTS OUTSIDE GREECE

1. EMBASSY HAS INSTRUCTED USAF COMMISSARY MANAGER SUTHERLAND TO SHIP NORMAL AMOUNT OF COMMISSARY SUPPLIES TO CAIRO.

2. IN RESPONSE TO RECENT PRESS QUERIES, GREEKS HAVE PUBLICLY DENIED THAT SINAI FIELD TEAM WILL BE SUPPORTED BY US GREECE-BASED FACILITIES. THIS IS A SENSITIVE ISSUE HERE AND IS COMPLICATED BY FACT THAT WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF RENEGOTIATING THE US-GREEK SOFA IN THE COURSE OF WHICH THE GREEKS HAVE SERVED NOTICE ON US THAT THEY WANT TO CONTROL PX AND COMMISSARY ACTIVITIES MUCH MORE CLOSELY.

3. IN LIGHT OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE HOPE CAIRO CAN PURSUE THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING SUPPORT FROM PLACES OTHER THAN ATHENS, SUCH AS NAPLES. IF FOR ANY REASON THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE WE CAN TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE SITUATION HERE AND PERHAPS EXPLORE THE PROBLEM INFORMALLY WITH THE GREEKS. WE ARE HOWEVER RELUCTANT TO DO THIS IF IT CAN BE AVOIDED. WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING CAIRO THOUGHTS AT AN EARLY DATE.
KUBISCH

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